

2024 Big Trout Campout at Lake Hemet

Friday April 26th - Anglers check-in at the **Lake Hemet Marina** parking lot from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. (2615 Angler Ave, Hemet, CA 92543). Anglers will receive their wristband with raffle number on it, goodie bag, copy of rules and itinerary, and most importantly, have their raffle number placed into a raffle bin which makes them eligible to win prizes including a grand raffle of a Marlon Aluminum Boat and Suzuki motor package. Late sign-ups, if any are available, will also be taken at this time.

Saturday April 27th - Late angler check-in at the **Lake Hemet Marina (2615 Angler Ave, Hemet, CA 92543)** from 6:00 am to 8:00 am. It is strongly recommended however that you use the Friday evening check-in.

Fishing will begin on Saturday morning, April 27th at 7:00 am and continue until 4:00 pm. The official tournament scales, located at the **Lake Hemet Marina** parking lot will be open from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Anglers not in line by 4:00 pm will not have their fish weighed and their catch will not count towards that day's competition. Once you weigh fish, you are done for the day and cannot weigh additional fish or continue to fish.

Sunday April 28th - Fishing will begin on Sunday morning, April 28th at 7:00 am and continue until 2:00 pm. Scales will be open at the **Lake Hemet Marina** parking lot from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Anglers not in line by 2:00 pm will not have their fish weighed and their catch will not count towards that day's competition. Once you weigh fish, you are done for the day and cannot weigh additional fish. Each angler may weigh only 5 fish per day.

The raffle prize drawing and awards ceremonies will commence around 3:30 pm in the **Lake Hemet Marina** parking lot.

We will be awarding 1st through 5th place trophies and prizes for overall biggest bags after 2 days of fishing to the top 5 adults and top 5 juniors (**under 14 years of age**) and overall big fish. Thousands of dollars in raffle prizes will be raffled off to those in attendance. You must be present to win. The Blind Bogie cash prizes will also be awarded on Sunday. Awards should be over no later than 5-5:30 pm to allow everyone the chance to get home early.

Since there is no seating in the BBMWD parking lot, it is strongly recommended that you bring folding lawn/beach chairs.

Additionally, due to the crowd size, no dogs will be allowed on BBMWD property during the TroutfesT award ceremonies.

Boat Owners

Private boaters launching vessels on Big Bear Lake are required to obtain a daily use permit from the Big Bear Municipal Water District. These permits run \$35.00 for one day or \$55.00 for two days. You may obtain permits at:

BBMWD West Launch Ramp

Additionally, due to the Quagga Mussel invasion in the west, all boaters will be subject to a boat inspection prior to being allowed to launch on the lake. Contact the BBMWD office at 909-866-5796 or www.bbmwd.org for further inspection details.

Event Parking

As the Big Bear October TroutfesT has become the most popular fishing event on Big Bear Lake, parking has become an issue. At the request of the City of Big Bear Lake and the Big Bear Marina, we ask that anglers park only in locations marked for our participants.

Quagga Mussels

These are a non-native, invasive species that were introduced to the U.S. in the mid 80's by a ship transporting cargo from the Black Sea. Since that time, they have slowly spread throughout the Great Lakes drainage. The result is billions in damage to man made structures, decimation of fisheries, and an overall negative impact on the ecosystem.

In January of 2007, Quagga Mussels were discovered in Lake Mead, Nevada. This is the first time they have been found west of the Rockies. Since this time, they have spread throughout the Colorado River chain and into many Southern California Lakes fed by this water source. As a result of this spread, many water agencies are adopting a variety of methods in dealing with the Quagga—methods that have gone as far as closing lakes to the public.

Western Outdoor News in conjunction with the Big Bear Municipal Water District urges you as a boat owner to take the time to familiarize yourself with boat cleaning procedures prior to coming to Big Bear Lake. For information on boat cleaning requirements and procedures and the Quagga Mussel crisis, please visit www.bbmwd.org or www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Invasives/Quagga-Mussels. Thanks for helping to prevent the spread of this alien species.